Up to March 16, 1968

2,799 U.S. planes were downed in North Viet Nam

# VIETNAM

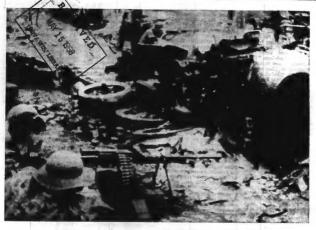
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IN THIS ISSUE:

accratic Republic of Viet Num

# MARCH 19:

Day of Nationwide Struggle Against U.S. Imperialism

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### Photo

Enemy tanks attacked by the P.L.A.F.

SOUTH VIET NAM

# P.L.A.F. CONTINUOUS ATTACKS

- \* G.l.'s under Tight Siege at Khe Sanh."
- \* Hard Blows at U.S. Logistic Bases.
- \* Many U.S. and Puppet Battalions Wiped Out.

HE armed forces and people of South Vist Nam continue to all theatres of operations, wiping out greater and greater number of his troops. They all the second of the secon

ROM January 20 to March

By 1968, the PLLAF,

Ughthead their nose

Holland their nose

A to the state of the state

A to the state of the state

Holland their nose

A to the state

Low State of the sanh, and

Low State

or destroyed 196 planes and helicopters, and demolished many depots and warehouses.

Enemy convoys on the section of Highways No. 1 section of Highways No. 1 section of Highways No. 1 section for the highest No. 2 section have been frequently intercepted. Military vessels and barges plying between Dong If a sed Can Viet were not not been found to the highest No. 2 section of the heavy damage; on February 35 and 37, the comply half y reessle damage, of burnt or sunk with their Viet were violently attacked many times between February 11 and 30. Despite heavy air and any alternative heavy of the heavy of t

DURING the siege of Hue from February 28 to March 5, 1968, the P.L.A.F. came into contact a dozen times with the U.S. and puppet columns raiding the city and its periphery.

The engagement on March I was particularly fierce. 4 U.S. battalions raided the sectors of Tan Thanh (5km northeast of Hue) and Hien Si (aikm northwest of Hue) sa well as the town quarters close to Hue. The armsed forces and people of the city inflicted upon them serious losses in a violent engagement. In a to-minute hand-to-hand fight, a self-defence unit of the city wipod out a platoons of the U.S. First Air Cavalry of the U.S. First Air Cavalry

N March 4, the armed forces and people of Quang Nath province launched fresh attacks on Da Nang as well as on many district capitals and enomy military bases. The P.L.A.F. guns accord direct hits on the province of the people of the people

(Continued page 8)

# DEATH KNELL OF PUPPET ARMY HAS TOLLED

HE thunderous widespread at tacks launched by the Liberaed by the Liberaed by the Liberathank Forces

A summer for the summer of the

psychological planes. One of the problems that most torment Johnson and Company is the massive disintegration at an unprecedented rate of the puppet armed forces.

### NEW FACTS

A CCORDING to initial statistics supplied by the N.F.L., the number of men and officers having

broken away from the puppet army in the first days of Pebmary 1966 has almost from the first days of the days of the days of the days years 1966 and days. Through the length of South Viet Nam, many big unite (battalions, reginants and even divisions) have been completely dislocated or exist only on the muster roll of only on the muster roll of

(Continued page 2)

# DEATH KNELL OF PUPPET ARMY HAS TOLLED

(Continued from page 1)

the puppet General Staff. These are, for instance, the the northernmost province Division quartered about According to the French paper La Nouvel Observateur o February 14. prior to the N.F.L. attacks in the South Viet Nam towns the Saigon army was estimated at 500,000 men, but today it is believed

o number less than 250,000. The break-down, this time. offects not only the paramili tary forces as was the case in 1961 during the movement of simultaneous uprisings that took place some time after the founding of the N.F.L. Besides the militia, the "civil Besides the mainta, the "civis guard" and infantry units of the "Republican Army," many artillery, transport, signal, motorized, radar... units have slso been struck by the process of dislocation. Neither have the elite troops been spared. Three battalions of paratroops of the strategic reserves have lost two-thirds of their effectives. In My Tho, some battalions of Marines have virtually melted away which was promptly and 1,200 men of the prov incial police have simply disapincial police have simply disap-peared. More serious still, "desertions" have spread to the qualified technical personnel and even some of-ficers of the General Staff. assigned to the puppet army

Massive "desertions" bave not only become a nort of sauve-qui-peut aboard a sinking boat. A new and highly significant fact is that the number of mutinies have multiplied during which the rebelling troops turned their arms against the die-hard officers or the Americans There have been cases of entire units crossing over to the side of the people's forces ith arms and outfits. Polit-Then came the second ical organizations of patriotic armymen opposed to the U.S. units so far regarded as "reliable" by the Americans and

All these signs, by their diversity and gravity, constitute complete symptoms of mortal disease that has been wearing down the patien since the first days of his

their benchmen.

### A LOOK BACK

effect, the South Vist Nam puppet army was conceived in the General Staff of the French Expeditionary Corps during the n 1945-1954. The colonialists ad set up units of "native supplementary troops" com-manded by French officers and non-come and made and non-coms and made up by adventurers of all stripes and young men press-ganged during raids in the occupied zones. Hated, desdecimated and demoralized, these units were hastily taken to the South in the bandwaggon of the French Expeditionary Corps after the sign-ing of the 1954 Geneva

Taken over by the Americans in 1956 s, they became the famous "Republican Army" placed under the command of "advisers" from Pentagon and in service of Washington. They were to carry out the "March North" plan so dear to the insatiable U.S. aggressors. But popular opposition to the despotic regime of Ngo Dinh Diem quickly gained momentum and aroused upheavals within the South Vietnamese people to a point that the Americans thought it necessary to constabilizing the situation. That was the period of the "spebattle in the last days o 1964. The Saigon regime and verge of total collapse. Then came the decision to commit American forces en masse, out in 1965 after which date
U.S. direct aggression has
taken the form of a "local
war." But what is the role

In the first stage, the U.S. Command stationed American troops in clusters at important strategic positions with the puppet troops serving as a cover and a mobile inter vention force. But reality on the battlefield, especially after the debacle at Ba Gia (May as toos) forced the Amer icans to face the hard fact that the puppet army was no match for the Liberation forces.

stage: batallions and regi-ments of U.S. troops went out to conduct operations side by side with corresponding units of the puppet army during the first "dry-season counter - offensive" 1966). In this way the American Command hoped to give a shot in the arm of the puppet army through the deployment of the fire-power of the expeditionary army and the on-the-spot supervision of U.S. officers. But once again it was bitterly disappointed by the sound thrushings inflicted by the P.L.A.F. The Saigon army, now, weaker than ever before, was held responsible for all these raverses. It was blamed for having not kept military secrets of combativity which incited it to fice whenever things go hot thus dissatrously exposing the flank of the American then thought better not to "involve" its "allies" in

its own operations. At that point, a new change occupied zones. Hated, despised and battered by the pised and battered by the people and their armed forces, prong plan, giving the

puppet army the role of a "house mother." Unqualified for "search - and - destroy" mission against the P.L.A.F. -a task which the Americans thought the 400,000 G.I.'s would be able to fulfil -, the puppet army was given the "pacification" task. The American strategists thought that the pupper army, thus immune to the hard blows of the Liberation Army much better equipped than the village or district gueril-las who would be their adversary in their new assign-ment, could avoid a too

rapid decay. This however, has proved a big blunder that brought about serious consequences. Split into small units scattered in rural areas where the revolutionary spirit has taken revolutionary spirit has taken firm roots for a quarter of century now, the puppet army, which is for the most part composed of peasants, has disintegrated at a still quicker tempo. Westmoreland has thus opposed his weakest point to his opponent's greatest forte; the guerilla wartare
of the people's revolution.
The result was the defeat
of the second " dry-season
counter-offensive" of 1966-1967. In 1966 110,000 men and officers of the puppet army deserted or were disbanded, according to American

The general uprising and offensive of the people's forces in 1968 took place at the moment when the U.S. Command was effecting fourth change believed to be suggested by McNamara during his oth visit to Saigon, concerning the way of using the puppet army, Part of this army was to be incorporated into the "integrated units" with U.S. troops. This measure was aimed at making up for the shortage of U.S. troops in South Viet Nam, making the puppet army share the ham-mer blows dealt at the U.S. troops, and deceiving American and world opinion which was denouncing more vigorously than ever the complete inefficiency of the puppet character of American inter vention. The disastrous losses venton. In disastrous losses suffered since January 30, 1968 by the puppet troops once again demonstrated that the Americans were facing an insoluble problem in their policy regarding the pupper army which is irremediably doomed to complete disinte

### THE LOGICAL COURSE OF THINGS

THE process of dislocation of the puppet army springs, in the first place, from the very nature of this anti-national army which has no roots in the people. In fact, all its generals and the majority of its high-ranking officers

On the military plane, the had fought against their own country in the ranks of the French Expeditionary Corps. P.L.A.F., in spite of normous disproportion of achnical means, are enportion means, are en-joying this unquestionable superiorily: they command the strategy and tactics of "people's war" which have been enriched by a quarter of For all the efforts of the psychological war service, the Saigon army remains without an ideal because "anti-communism" has proved a stupid subterfuge and the "republican spirit," a hypocritical lie. The hatred century of experience in armed struggle. The present all-round crumbling of the and contempt shown it by Saigon army has been the

direct consequence of the

my by the P.L.A.F. and the

The total collapse of the puppet army resulting from all the above-cited factors is an inescapable process. The

longer the war continues, the

more badly the puppet army

is battered and the more beat-

ing it got the weaker it

defeats, the quicker its disin-

tegration. The sudden aggra-

wation of its reverses in

accompanied by a considerable

is the law soverning this evo-

lution. No remedy is of any

A MORTAL BLOW TO

THE U.S. MILITARY

ADVENTURE

Nam is sealed: it is heading

with broken brakes for the

considerations in the present

to give a neo-colonialist form

to its policy of aggression in

Viet Nam. It cannot, without

unmasking itself, relegate the

role as the French colonialists

did after 1945.On the contrary.

given the important strategic role of this "Republican Army," the U.S. Expedition-

ary Corps and the puppet

army must form two "inter

dependent" pillars on which

rests U.S. policy in Viet

Nam. The dislocation of the

Salgon army is a mortal blow

at the U.S. neo-colonialist

· General O'Daniel has

been nichnamed by the Western

press the father of the "Ro-publican Army" in which then the French-type grade

budges were replaced by Amer-

\*\* An American journalist reported that a U.S. officer

once made this pertinent remark: " In South Viet Nam,

you'll find fin the occubied

zones) only scoundrels. You'll

meet men whom you can respect only out of the cities.

Who is it that the Vict Cone

only thing to deplore is they

TO THE READER

is much room for improve-ment in the wording of

ment in the wording of our paper. We apologise for this shortcoming and highly appraciate all your suggestions as they will help us to zeroe you more efficiently in future.

We are aware that there

possess so good men?

ican badges.

undertaking in its entirety.

day world force Wash

HUS, the face of the char

iot of aggression of the United States in Viet

ration of its decay, Such

The more serious its

ionary forces.

the people are profoundly felt among its ranks. The bad cause which it is made to serve is self-evident defend the interests of the ist policy of the United States, and renounce national independence and freedom.

The presonce of half a mil-

lion G.I.'s cannot but have a non U.I.s cannot but have a grave impact on the morale of the puppet troops. The wanton massacres and devas-tating raid conducted daily all over the country by the Americans have exasperated the hatred of the whole peo ple. The depravation of the people's customs, the harm done to the national culture shown by the occupants for their lackeys, the daily griev-ances, the spiralling cost of living...all this has aggravated the divergences already very serious between the Vankey serious between the Yankee imperialists and the Viet-namese people and contri-butes to awakening the na-tional conscience of the Sai-

Unable to give the puppet army a palatable political goal and an acceptable ideal, Washington has been relying on the power of the United States to secure its attachment or at least its docility. How over, in the eyes of the world and especially of their South Vietnamese "allies." the American troops themselves have proved unable to with stand the crushing attacks of the patriotic forces. The Amer not fighting as his forefathers did when they defended the independence and freedom of their people. Ordered to fight without an ideal, he is but an unfortunate boy armed to the teeth but ill-prepared and moreover lacking a good com-mand: the strategic and tactical mistakes committed by Westmoreland and his collaborators are known to the whole world. Thus, the American forces has been American forces and open shattered together with the "faith" in the victory of the "allies" which they wanted to inculcate in the puppet soldier.

To these " subjective " factors are added the "objective" factors that exist in the adverse camp - the P.L.A.F. The latter's strength has been proved both politi-

The cause which they are fighting for is a just cause. Their political line is the only correct one as clearly dem-onstrated by the recently announced Political Program of the N.F.L. All this has transformed each combatant of the Liberation Armed Forces into a valiant fighter. The sound and lenient policy of the N.F.L. towards the puppet troops has had prond repercussions in the minds of these strayed persons and is irresistibly push ing them back onto the right THE NORTH - BIG REAR BASE OF THE SOUTH

# A THEATRE THAT GROWS News in Brief WITH THE FIGHTING

RIGHT in the early days of the U.S. war of destruction against North theatres, the Viet Nam Music, Song and Dance Theatre sent song and Dance Incatre went many shock troupes to per-form in the fire line, especially in areas close to the 17th parallel where tough and grim fighting were

Making up small roving troupes with light but selected hundreds of kilometres over hill and dale and under fire to bring music, songs and dances to fighters at their combat positions, to road and bridge menders, car drivers, young volunteers against U.S. aggression, for national on, co-operative farm-

While touring the combat zones, their zeal to perform grew. Usually, in Hanoi, an artiste rarely sings more than 3 songs or performs more than 3 dance items in a show, and that in perfect stage conditions. But during their tours of the combat zones. most members of shock art troupes treated the audience to a dozen songs and 7 or 8 dance numbers, even though the stage was merely an em-bankment, a piece of ground by a gun site or a combat with no other lighting than the moon or oil lamps They were all ready to per form at any time and for any member of spectators. This field show art has been brought into play in a flexible manner. An alert might sound in the middle of a dance number. Off the lights went

and songs were given instead.

HUNG could not believe that Dung, his younger brother, was no more. But the fact was brutal. In

the evening, his mother came

home straight away, her eyes

In front of the embarrass-

ment of Dung's comrades-in-arms, the old woman felt a

"Seriously injured or dead?

"He died in action, moth-

in many parts of his body, Dung refused to leave his seat and died there."

Wining her tears, the mother

asked to be shown to Dung's grave. Before leaving the en-

campment, she handed the

oranges which were meant for

Dung to his mates. But now,

she had to bite her lips so as

not to burst into sobs. The

light was out for a long time

and now and then she was

er, " said a fighter.

What was the mat-

dry her face nale

Such tours provided mem-bers of the Theatre with good opportunities to acquaint themselves with different herole communities with eroic men and women and their heroic deeds. Bright heroism displayed by our fighters and people were dramatized, in time and vividly, in various dance, song or music items. The original repertoire was enriched by new items created during tours and highly appreciated by spectators. After each shock tour, during which they could put their talents at the service of the factors. idly, in various dance, song could put their talents at the service of the fighting and production all the artistes and musicians felt they had grown up in many re-spects. By their first hand

Over recent years, the prime purpose of the Music, Song and Dance Theatre has Song and Dance Theatre has been to keep in close touch with, and serve, the fighting and production in the resistance against U.S. aggression, for national salvation. Apart from this, the Theatre has also seen to it that improvement is constantly brought ment is constantly brought in its organizational work, to the skills of its actors, ac-tresses and musicians and to the quality of its perform-

experience, they learnt that

the great and diverse real-ities had instilled new strength into their art, ideology and

Young actors and actresses make up a rather great pro-portion at the Theatre. From portion at the Theatre. From this crop of young artistes have emerged new promising talents. They have grown up talents in the course of building and fighting. Each artiste is not only well versed in the kind of art in which

He Takes His Brother's Place

What a difference with the

other night when Dung came home on furlough. She had had to scold her children

many times for keeping on

small children. They know their father only through the

words of their mother who

talking under their brea

he or she specialized and for which he or she has a gift. Every one of them has struggled to achieve some ication in other to be able to perform when necessary. Thanks to this method of training these shock troupes, though not large in number, have been able to produce substantial and varied shows during tours of the combat zones.

Besides serving the fighting

and production, building up its own ranks and its own repertoire, the Theatre thinks it one of its major duties to give a hand to the mass music, song and dance move-ment. This assistance has been rendered not only during tours. Every year the Theatre devotes a certain amount of time to concentrate on this duty. In 1967 slone, it dispatched to teams to various localities, branches of service, army units and factories to give expert counsel for a 3 month period. The artistes seized these ortunities to see realities opportunities to see realities with their own eyes, they observed and explored them so as to enrich their ideologsentimental and artis

The actors, actresses and musicians have also been tempered in the flames of war. Once after a successful counter-attack against U number of artistes of the number of artists of the Theatre-concurrently mem-bers of the scif-defence corps -also had taken part an Ack-Ack gunner dedicated this distich to them:

" For half of the planes downed in this engagement The credit must to the superb songsters go."

### POLITICAL ACTIVITIES

N an interview granted to Mr. Francois de Quirielle, French Delegate General in Hanoi, D.R.V.N. Foreign Minister Nguyen Duy Trinh expressed satisfaction with the attitude of the French Government towards U Thant's recent stateof the French Government towards U Thant's recent state-ment demanding an unconditional end to the bombing and properties of the state of the state of the state of the February 28, 1958 in support of U Thant the French Gov-ernment condemend U.S. aggression and demanded that the U.S.A. unconditionally stop the bombing and other war acts against the D.R.V.N.

N March 13, 1958 the spokeman of the D.R.V.N. Min-istry for Forsign Affairs strongly condemnal I pear is Okinawa as a base for B.32's bombleg mission is South Viet Nam. After recalling that the Sato government had been U.S.A. to use unitary bases on Japanese territory and had provided it with personnel, ammunition, napalm bombs, toxic chemicals and other war materials to be used against the Vistnamese people, the spokesman emphasized that permitting American B. 52s to employ Okinawa as a base constituted a now, extremely serious step in the collusion between the Japanese ruling circles and the U.S. imperialign against the interests of the peoples of Viet Nam, Japan and Asia as a whole. This permission must be withdrawn immediately, the spokesman said.

implementation of a decision taken by the Council of Ministers, new elections will be held in April all over the D.R.V.N. to choose new People's Councils and Administrative Committees in provinces, towns and autonomous regions for the 1968 - 1971 term of office.

### ECONOMIC ACTIVITIES

N 1065-67, more than 200 undertakings were put into N 1905-07, more than 200 unnertainings were put into operation, which turned out daily consumption goods such as sugar, fish sauce, tea, paper, earthenware, chinaware, wines, etc. In 1907, total value of delivered goods went up 2.5 per cent compared with 1965 and 3 per cent compared with 1965.

N the Quang Ninh mining area, the Coc 6 Colliery ful-filled the targets of the state plan for the first quarter of 1968, 42 days ahead of schedule.

### CULTURAL ACTIVITIES

COMPARED with the school-years 1955-56 (immediately after the first war of resistance) and 1954-65 (at the start of American aggression against the D.R.V.N.) consistent of times and a fines respectively. At present there are 200 such schools, of which 40 have been set up these last two years, with an enrolment of 120,000 distributed in 130 different branches.

N Quang Binh province, which borders on the 17th parallel, cultural activities continue to develop in spite of continual American bombing and shelling: Many underground exhibition and lecture halls have been built. underground exhibition and lecture axis axes been out-in 1697 the number of books in public libraries increased 70 per cent compared with the previous year, and that of radio sets 500 per cent. At present, almost all villages and agricultural co-operatives in the province have each an ansatur artistic ensemble.

N Hai Phong a painting exhibition has opened recently. Exhibits include oil and lacquer paintings, gouaches, water-colours etc. picturing the people's atruggle and oconomic, cultural and social activities.

militia unit, is also to fight U.S. aggression and serve yeur country," this piece of advice repeatedly given Hung by the local leader of the Youth Union no longer carried conviction. He mus

was anxious to bring them up in the respect of her bushand. A worker at the Hon Gay power station and a staunch militant, her husband had spent four years in Son La nenal asttlement before satthing down in that village in the suburbs of Hanoi. During the French colonialists, he was an officer in the famous Division 308. He died in the fact of honour in 1953 in the same mining area where he had fought for a decade.

It was with the intention a clean breast of it to his

He was comforted only when his younger brother reached the draft ages. Now his brother fell on the bat-tlefield. His eyes wide open in the dark, Hang called to mind the day when they had been "To fulfil your duty at your co-operative and local militia unit, is also to fight

of treading in his father's steps that, aged 18 in 1966, Hung enlisted in the army. But he felt a great pain when

join the army again and stand just where his brother had fallen. His health was mending. No more worry about the living of his mother, now a state em-ployee. But after Dung's death, wouldn't his absence cause the old woman a great sorrow? The doubt harassed him. In the end, he made

mother.

What a joy, what a pride!
The old mother shared his feeling. After bowing her head in her son's memory before his grave, she had expressed to the company commander the hope that Hung would be allowed to take the place of his younger brother.

brother. Some sort of welcome was

arranged for Hung's arrival at the encampment; but it could not come off: an engagement took place and Hung had to rush toward an A.A. battery, the one previously manned by his brother.

In an A.A. unit defending Hance, a lighter has thus replaced his younger brother killed a few weeks before.

It was attended by representatives of various political parties, mass organizations, nationalities, religious communities, the armed forces and people of all strate in Hauni

Addressing the meeting, Houng Quoc Viet, member of the Vist Nam Workers' Party Central Committee and member of the Presidium of the Viet Nam Patherland Front Central Committee said:

"This year, Viet Nam's Day of Nationwide Struggle Against U.S. Imperialism has become a day of worldwide solidarity with Viet Nam against U.S. aggression. In response to the call of the Tri-Continental Committee of Support for Vist Nam. a Week of International Solidarity with

Vist Nam is being observed in many places around the world. This is a great stimulus for us. We warmly welcome the Wesk of International Soliday. ity with Vist Nam; we thank the peoples in the fraternal socialist countries, Azia, Africa and Latin America, and the progressive people the world over including progressive people in the United States for their valuable support and assistance to the Vietnamese people's resistance against U.S. aggression, for national saluation.

"Eighteen years ago, armed only with their hatred for the enemy and their determination to fight and to win, our compatriots in the Saigou-Cho Lon area succeeded in forcing U.S. warships and aircraft to withdraw from our country. We firmly believe that today, with the one-minded blue of our 3t million people, having powerful force in all aspects and enjoying the strong symbathy and support of the peoples all over the world, will certainly inflict complete defeat on the U.S. aggressors and their henchmen to liberate the South, defend the North and ultimately remaity our country."

Speaking next, Mms Nguyen Thi Luu, Assistant Secretary of the Viet Nam Fatherland Front Central Committee and Secretary General of the Viet Nam Asian-African Solidarity Committee, said:

"The U.S. imporialists are persisting in their aggressive war and have committed monstrous crimes. The Visinamese people have unmashed U.S. 'neo-colonialism', defeated the 'special war' and are defeating the 'local war' of the U.S., chieftain of the imperialist marmoneers?

Praising the victories of the Vietnamese beoble. especially of the South Vietnamese beeble, since early this Spring, Nguyen Thi Lun stressed:

"The tramendous and all-sided victories recently won by the South Vietnamese people have brought about a new situation in which the U.S. aggressors are driven further into a defensive posture and impasse and cannot escape complete failure."

The meeting unanimously adopted a resolution condemning the U.S. imperialists for obdurately continuing their dirty war of aggression in Viet Nam and at the same time raising a ballyhoo about their "desire for peace."

The resolution reiterated the determination of the Vietnamese people to completely defeat the U.S. aggressors so as to liberate the South, defend the North and reunity the country.

# SAIGON repression with all its blind brutality, all that did not work. Saign scored the carrot and turned up its carrot and turned up its carrot and turned at the carrot and turned at the carrot and turned at the carrot and turned up its carrot. The carrot and turned up its carrot. The carrot and turned up its carrot. The carrot and its carrot and decounteration to bloody clashes with police. War was brought deep into U.S. Brubassy likely were bounded. To such a carrot and discovering its words and discovering its words. Indomitable City a pitch that, Josing its based after [Colonel Seachin was after [Colonel Seachin was

E IGHTEEN years ago, in the thick of French oc-cupation, the Saigonese were the first to raise the

After the onster of the

torious, more or less short-lived, traitors. A massive

sid, weapons galore, a body of advisers in increasing

DECENT events in South RECENT events in South
Vist Nam, and especisally in Saigon,
throw the "Hawkis"
of the Pentagon and the White House into dismay. The carefully cultivated my about an American big stick the entire world has sadly been exploded. The Johnson-ian ranting, turning pure braggadocio, can hardly impress people any more except the more naive ones.

banner of struggle against U.S. intervention. On March 19, 1930, led by Lawyer Rguyen Huu Tho, now President of the N.F.L., a man-The fortress of the Em-The fortress of the Embassy taken by storm, the "Independence Palace" assaulted, Radio Saigon destroyed, all the H.Q. of the puppet army and police demolished, the Inter-Arms General Staff overlun, Tan Son Nhat airfield taken and moth demonstration, in fact, shook the city with the sound of its footsteps. The two U.S. destroyers, prowling off Saigon for a show of strength, dared not stay any longer in face of this effervescence. because in the city, Jeeps were being overturned and re-taken under the running fire of the P.L.A.F., whole the stars-and-stripes torn to pieces. Already in Dulles' quarters swept clean of col-laborationist vermin, the gendarme is so soundly thrashed that it is difficult ime, our compatriots shouted Down with U.S. interven-"Down with U.S. interven-tion!" and "Yankee, go home!" This was clear, outright, sharp and crackling as a lash of whip. Yet, the White House gave too much heed to the cries of its for Westmoreland to present himself again as a dashing conqueror before Congress. While crying up victory, the American C-in-C makes a lowkey plea for an immediate reinforcement of 200,000 men! A new expeditionary immoderate stomach to take notice of the warning. corps, one might as well say.
Definitely, the sense of the
ridiculous of the sabre-rattling Yanks has been lost French colonialists in 1956, the Americans were thus installed as masters in Saigon, behind the shields of somewhere while flying over

That Johnson and Company have chosen Saigon as a of advisers in increasing springboard for attack and number, demagogic measures last refuge furthermore proves by the armful, a rathless

the Pacific

would be crossing. Thinking that this might serve as an example, Jonson set fire to the pewder-keg. their utter ignorance of facts. They had better brush up their history. They will learn that Saigon has never yielded to any big warrior, be it electronic.

Things got worse with the massive arrival of G.I.'s at the beginning of the "local war." The arrogance of the occupation troops served as an syst-opener for even the personnel and officers of the wunnet administration and puppet administration and army as to the mechanism of U.S. neo-colonialism, and laid bare the felony of swindless of the Thieu-Ky type. A blaze of the patriotic movement set Saigon in effervescence again.

Workers of the VIMITEX. Workers of the VIMITEX, cockers, taxi-drivers, and other manual workers by periodical, sometimes bloody, strikes, kept up the sacred fire of the Revolution. Vigilant college youth took to the streets, angeered by the public execution of their mate, student Le Hong Tu; the Buddhists whose heroic the Buddhists whose heroic struggle joined the one waged by all the other strata of the people in the movement of simultaneous uprisings and precipitated the down-fall of Ngo Dinh Diem in 1953, added their angry voices to the protest chorus. Monks indulged in self-im-molation by fire at street corners to say No to enslaveround, speeding up the collapse of the Diemist dictatorship. The "long-haired army" stepped up its attacks. Those of the intellectuals who up to then had adopted a wait-and-see attitude also

participated in the fight

tions of its promoters, Yankee terror in the end brought about the unanimity of the about the unanimity of the patriotic forces. The memory of professor Le Quang Vinh sentenced to death, of his colleague Ngayen Thi Dieu murdered in her prison-cell, of the woman pharmacist Pham Thi Yen atrociously tortured, of innumerable physicians, journalists, writers and artists languishing in jail, shows that neither women intellectuals are spared. A struggle, now smothered, now explosive, has been shaking Saigon all the days of U.S. occupation. Winning over all sections of the po-pulation, it has become an urban movement of unprecedented violence hawkers, barmaids and even children themselves brand the aggressors as gorillas.

In spite of the Honolulu ambraces and the election farce in November 1967, Thieu and Ky lives secluded, universally scorned. Seeded and licensed traitors, but prudent and without illusion, they

Contrary to the expecta-tions of its promoters. Yankes the single step in Salgon. teror in the end brought Going to work by helicopter, about the manimity of the adrictic forces. The memory of professor Le Quang Vinh cover, and equabbling for the smallest privilege handed out by Washington, these peculiar "president" and "vice-"prosident" and "vice-president" of the puppet Republic of Salgon wallow in the alough of Despond, aware that their days are numbered. The review of the numbered. The raview of the troops dispersed in panic by the P.L.A.F. mortaring, the pounding of the "Independ-ence Palace" the very day of the presidential inauguration, to say nothing of other have irremeliably ruined these sad wrecks. If the U.S. "Hawks" are still rubbing their beaks, it is because the rapacious birds are fond

(Continued base 8)

. " Long - haired army": women's units waging political struggle.

## What Happened in Saigon on March 18 and 19, 1950

March 18, 1980: Two U.S. destroyers, the Siichen and the Anderson arrived at Saigon port to show the flag, together with aircraft from an aircraft carrier operating off the South Vist Nam coast, thus marking U.S. outright intervention in the Indo-Chinese war of the French colonialists.

Maxch 18, 1950, sight: South Viet Nam people's armed forces attacked French barracks near the berths of the American ships.

March 10, 1980: Over 500,000 demonstrators march past the U.S. Embassy, and set fire to American cara. Headed by Lawyer Nguyen Huu Tho, the present N.F.L. President, and other well-known intellectuals and persals and per-red flag and sonalities, they displayed the yellow-star-red flag chanted the slogans "Down with U.S. imperialism "Yankee go home!".

As a result of this mammoth demonstration, the U.S. ships sailed off, giving up their abortive attempt. March 19, 1950-has been written down in history as the Day of Nationwide Struggle Against U.S. Imperialism. MARCH 19 DAY OF NATIONWIDE STRUGGLE AGAINST U.S. IMPERIALISM

righist aggression?

ican and puppet demagogic measures have misfired, and

on the military plane, the

tipped in our favour. Worker opinion has been voicing ever more explicit condemnation of the patent crime of aggressiant our neonle, and tipped in our favour. World

us come out on top, ever broader sections of American society itself have demanded

that the Johnson administra-tion should put an end to this war with no way out

which troubles their con

The Vietnamese people,

fred by the brilliant success of the Lunar New Year show of strength, are entering the present phase of struggle with increased confidence. This does not mean that we

have ony illusions as to the

sacrifices that we still have to endure. But we know, and

say so, that victory is already

ours. And while we rely first

of all on the courage of the sons and daughters of our pa-

tion and the selflessness of

value any support and en-

couragement to our defence effort, wherever it may come

And thus, whenever we

proclaim our confidence in

victory, we also express our

combatants and people's friendship and gratitude to

litical and moral turmoil.

made such an effort to

not besitate to attribute

over great natio

our people to triumph

# THE Americans are with us. Yes, why not? This has become more, and more in line with the logic THE AMERICANS We are finding ourselves at a decisive hour. We have just probed the American aggressive forces and received confirmation of what we thought about them. We shall get the better of them, cortainly— ARE WITH US

on condition that we are ready to pay the necessary price. That is why we are celebrating this year with particular fervour the anni-wersary which falls on March our struggle for independence and freedom. Of course, ten could without any false modesty, agree with them that we have played a part in the present intense activity in American political life. But could one fail to trace the versary which falls on March 19; that day in 1950 was one of the most significant subjects for pride on the part of Saigon city, Isn't Saigon, the Saigon of the popular masses, our Saigon, going to draw the saigon and subjects of the saigon of the popular consistent of the saigon o powerful popular movement in the United States to the persistent strength of Amercan revolutionary and democratic traditions them-selves? It was not by accident that our Pro-clamation of Independence in September 1945 started with a quotation from the Who could help thinking of this at a time when it has become clear, in spite of the ranting of a Westmoreland and the buffoonery of a Nguyen Cao Ky, that Amerof this at a time when it constitution. We know that modern America was founded by courageous ican aggressive imperialise people who preferred sxile to servitude, that the most on the whole front? All Amer-

that this is not without meaning. Now the Americans know that we want only independsion against our people, and, while the many friends we have in the world are re-doubling their efforts to help ence and freedom. Should America be the one to prevent us from getting them? We also want peace: who can aspire to peace more ardently than a people who have been deprived of it for nearly a quarter of a century now? It is certain that we cannot compromise on our fundamental national rights. But we demand nothing else, at the cost of our blood, than the right to live in peace in our own land and to settle our own affairs. They also know that

make a distinction between the imperialists who under flag are attempting to reduce us to slavery, and the American people for whom we feel only esteem. We we reel only esteem. We sincorely feel sorry for those young Americans who, de-ceived by their government, are getting killed by the ten of thousand far from their native land, without any plausible reason. As to the star-spangled banner are not the ones who are damaging it; those who are popular names there have doing so are those who nained those of Washington dragging it in the mud and blood of an unjust war, forgetting the while the and Lincoln, and we think voice of the fatherland and experience. Isn't this said in the American national anthem: come it must - If the cause is just. " ?

The unjust war waged against Viet Nam and the combined efforts of the American people and our own have thus begun to seriously put out of order the formidable me. chine of misinformation used by Mr. Johnson against the peoples, the American people in the first place. And we have been pleased to see that the more it gets out of order, the more Americans side with na We keep in our memory the moving sacrifices of Helga Herz, H. Morrison and others.

We sympathize with the

young people who have burnt their draft cards in public,

with the artists who have

in their songs stigmatized the

White House or praised the courage of the peasant-soldiers of the N.F.L., with

the Negroes, women, intel-

who in successive and ever

more powerful waves are

mounting assaults on the myths and lies behind which

the Johnson administration

petitions, teach ins, man demonstrations — the Amer

ican people have used all forms of struggle. For this

war has become more and more odious to them. It has

proved disastrous for the in-ternational prestige of the

United States, and even for American honour. On the

internal plane, it is ruinous

plans for the Great Society

have already been abelyed

the people's savings are de-preciated by inflation and taxes are being increased.

What is even worse, because the war is already lost, under

the pretext that the expedi-

tionary corps should be saved

at all coats. American liberties

are being exposed to a mortal peril. But who is exposing

American soldiers to dange if not the Johnson adminis

tration | trolf? And the Amer

ican people, in complete agreement with ours, have been telling it, every day,

TOOMS

wage its war. One

lectuals, students workers

the best way to save them from such dangers: "Bring our boys home now!" A military solution? Yes, if you like, That one, The fact that the military have adopted a definite position seems to us full of m oldiers have deserted by hundreds : recent news reports told us that Air Force Captain Dale Novd had amferred to go to jail rather than par-ticipate in the training of airmen who would go and villages; Professor George Zistiakowski of Harvard Uni versity, a noted specialist in military science and technique, has resigned his job adviser to the Pentagon

In these days of impetuous struggle for peace, at the the decision taken by the Tri-Continental Organization to launch a week of action for an end to the Viet Nam war, from March 13 to 19, reports from America tell us that ten days of uninter rupted demonstrations have been planned and announced All friends of Viet Nam share our joy at the American people's combativeness and inin us in wishing their campaign the best of successes and the most happy progress. As for us, our people will strive to in this common struggle for better future, and will do their best to deserve their

Prof PHAM HILV THONG Vice Chairman of the Viet Nam Committee for the Defence of World Peace, Member of the World Peace Council.

# BARRICADES IN SAIGON STREETS

THE tank shivered, veered, spewed smoke, then stopped dead. A N.F.L. man dashed out quick as lightning and fired a burst of his sub-machinegun at the last G.I. in the vehicle. Other Liberain the vehicle. Other Libera-tion armymen rushed to the scene from neighbouring houses. They were followed by people of various ages and attires.

and attires.

They were carrying pieces of furniture, empty oil drums, cement bags, pieces of timber, with which they built two barriendes arross the street with the carcass of the tanks as the front shield.

peoples and men of good will all over the world who have, in one way or another, con-Noontime. The sun was demned American crimes and beating down fercely. The street looked deserted. A luli approved of our resistance street looked deserted. A luil
that portended a new storm.
The men felt hungry. One
aid, "I was in such a hurry
this morning I took only two
bowlfuls of rice... I am
starving now!" One of his
friends chuckled: "Serves
you right! Way did you turn
towns the sandwichest those aggression. And that is why, in this crucial moment our fight against the American imperialists, we think that the Americans are with us. Our American friends like to remark that never before has the United States experienced such podown the sandwiches those schoolgirls offered you? Why should you be such a simid soul?" The group broke into laughter. A young girl who was busy putting her gunnight and international problems, such an attempt to impose the people's will on the government. And they do was busy putting her gunsight in order in a nearby emplace-ment said aloud: "The peo-ple left plenty of food for us before evacuating their the credit for this healthy awakening of democratic feelings in their country to places. Why should we refuse to touch it? We're fighting

the Yanks, aren't we?" A young man in specs opened packet of cigarettes passed them around, "Have a smoke, boys..."

A man with a Chinese accent who was lying on his stomach some distance away, said, "You come over, comrades, and share our meal later in the day." Suddenly the girl sprang to her feet and took cover

behind a tree. A small figure appeared in the distance, head-ing for the barricade, weaving his way through the obstacles, with things looking like grenades at the end of his swinging arms. The Chinese worker lifted his bead to acan the approaching figure. "Don't shoot, "he cried out,

'It's Old Nam's son | " Now everyone could see a Now everyone could see a young boy with chubby cheeks, about 13. His dark, intelligent eyes looked attentively at the tank carcass and the barricade, then winkand the barricade, then wink-ed mischievously at the men. "I am bringing you a lot of goodies: beer, sandwiches... From the uncles and aunties is town..." he called out.

A man hugged the little boy and stroked his plumb cheeks. Hai —that's the boy's name - took his submachine gun and said pleadingly: "Do let me fire a round,

will your a know how to.

He was interrupted by a clatter of machinegun in the distance. All the guns on the barricade immediately pointed in that direction. The girl said to the little boy in a serious voice, "Get into cover, quick!"

Bullets ripped the surface of the road. The anti-tank A man stood tiptoe to observe. Bullets whizzed over his head and hit some cement bags. As he ducked for cover, a ringing voice called from a balcony:

"Look out, some bastards have slipped into the drug-store and are firing from there!". Little Hai was calling from the second storey of house nearby. Grasping firmly the wooden rail of the balcony, he craned his neck and red his eyes on some distant object.

"Get down, you kid I" the bespectacled young man was shouting. His friends looked up at the child with a wor-ried expression on their farried expression on their faces. A burst of submachinegun broke window panes very close to Hai, who didn't turn a hair. The clanking of caterpillars was heard in caterpillars was heard in the distance. Hai shouted:

behind... Shoot at them, brothers... Shoot!" It was then that he was spotted by men in the drug-store. They fired a volley at him. From the barricade, an anti-tank rocket, whiszed forth; it hit the drugstore and silenced the gun. On the balcony the little boy had staggered; one of his hands had left the railing, but the other still grasped at it. He refused to leave the lookout job which he had assigned to have the control of the contr job which he had assigned to himself. Some of the men were about to rush up to him when the tanks turned up, cannon blazing. The one in the lead was almost imme-diately hit by a B.40 rocket, distriby hit by a B.40 rocket, which broke its track and stopped it dead. Smoke gushed from its side, and the American infantry men behind beat a hasty retreat. They were caught in a deadly fire from the barricade, which

roin the barricade, which felled many of them. The other tank tupned tail.

From the barricade, a man rushed to the house, up the stairs, and carried Hai down on his back. Blood from a wound in the child's left arm discould make the child make the child make the child's left arm discould make the child's left arm discould make the child make th dripped on the back of his shirt. The little boy's face was pale, but a contented smile was on his lips. The girl blinked and whi

# WARSAW TREATY CONFERENCE ISSUES PRO - VIET NAM STATEMENT

THE Conference of the Political Consultative Committee of the War---- Treaty-member countrie held on March 6 and 7, 1968 in Sofia (Bulgaria) unanimousin sona (Dugaria) unanimous-ly approved a statement on the "threat to peace resulting from the widening of Amer-ices aggression in Viet Nam."

The statement sternly condemns the U.S. imperialists war of aggression in Viet Nam, their acts and schemes of continuing war escalation and their barbarous crimes. It also condemns and warns the reactionary authorities in Thailand, South Korea, the Philippines, Australia, New nations. Zealand, West Germany, who have sent mercenary troops to Vict Nam to help the U.S. imperialists in their war of

Highly appreciative of the recent great victories of the South Viet Nam people and armed forces, the statement affirms that these victories herald a new stage of the liberation struggle of the Vietnamese people. The attacks mounted by the Liberation forces with the active support of the people of South Viet Namhaveshaken to its foundations the whole American-Saigon war system. This offensive again eloquent ly testifies to the unity of the people and the N.F.L., the ing the war in Viet Nam-

revolutionary strength of the liberation movement, expresses the national aspirations of the people and their aggressors from Vietnamess

The statement warmly hails the victories of great international significance of the Vietnamese people in the struggle against the U.S. aggressors and stresses, "These are an important contribution to the struggle for peace, independence, democracy, and socialism of the countries of the world socialist system and of all

The participants in the Conference once again declare that they resolutely support the four points of the Government of the D.R.V.N. the Political Program of the South Viet Nam National Front for Liberation and the statement of the D.R.V.N. demanding that the U.S. unconditionally stop the bombing and all other acts of war against the D.R.V.N., strongly condemn the U.S. ruling circles' double talk aiming at covering U.S. war escalation. They make it plain that the U.S. imperialists must bear full responsibility for prolong-

Jung Hi stooges are making

feverish war preparations, thus directly threatening

pardizing the peace in Asia

and the world and flagrantly

violating the 1953 armistice

agreements and international

D.P.R.K., seriously

security of the

that the U.S.A. stop immodiately, permanently and unconditionally the bombing and all other acts of war against the D.H.V.N., put an end to its aggression in South Viet Nam, withdraw U.S. and satellite troops from South Viet Nam and respect the right to self determination of the Vietnamese people.

Reiterating their determination to increase support to the Vietnamese people "who are standing in the front line of the armed struggle against the U.S. imperialist aggressors," the participants in the Conference reaffirm in their statement that they will continue to offer the Viet. namese people "full support and all necessary aid, especially in the spheres of economy, defence, technology and specialists... The Warsaw treaty-member | countries declare their readiness to allow their volunteers to go to Viet Nam at the request of the Government of the

D.R.V.N." The statement finally expresses the Conference's firm conviction that "the Vietnamse people will win, and their just cause vill triumph."

made clear in his March o

1968 statement, that the D.R.V.N. "fully supports the correct position of the Gov-

ernment of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea

of February 27, 1968 of the spokesman of the Foreign Ministry of the D.P.R.K. The

Government of the D.R.V.N

strongly insists that the U.S.

imperialists stop at opce

against the D.P.R.K., with

draw American troops from South Korea, let the Korean

people settle themselves their

interference and immediately

dissolve the so-called 'II.N

Commission for Unification and

own affairs without foreign

provocation

all acts of war

Sandech Narodom Sihanouk:

The United States Can by No Means Justify or Invoke Extenuating Circumstances for Its Aggression

SAMDECH NORODOM SIHANOUK, Hend of State of Cambodia, has just to the granted an interview to the granted an interview to the Bulgarian weekly In the World, the Bulgarian News Agency BTA reported on March 9, 1968. Samdech Norodom Si-hanouk declared:

nanous deciared;
"We fully supports the
four-point programme of the
four-point programme of the
D.R.V.N. Government and
the five points of the South
Viet Nam N.F.L.—they alone
can restore peace in IndoChina. Such a peace could
only be secured after evacuation of American troops and bases from South Viet Nam and after recognition of the Vietnamese people's right and that of the other Indo-Chinese peoples to settle themselves

The destruction of Viet Nam and the massacre of the civilian population by Amermost monstrous crimes ever committed in the course of history by a country said to be civilized. The United States can by no means justify, or invoke extenuating cir-cumstances for, its aggression against a country which has atened the security

of the U.S.

"Only by giving full political
and moral support to the
Victnamese patriots who are
struggling for their independence, that is for a sacred
cause which she herself is
also fighting for, can Cambodia really contribute to the
restoration of pesco." resturation of peace.

### Cambodian Foreign Ministry Protests Against U.S.-Satellite Troops' Aggressive Acts

THE Cambodian Foreign
Ministry on March 4 and
March 5, 1968, sent notes
to the U.S. Government, Saigon puppet regime and That pro-U.S. administration strongly denouncing and con-demning a succession of crim-inal military attacks launched against Cambodian territory in February 1968 by the U.S. satellite troops who killed many Khmer citizens and took away many cattle and property, the Cambodian

News Agency AKP reported.
Huot Sambath, Cambodian
permanent delegate to the
United Nations, sent a note
on March 8, to the Security
Council strongly protesting Council strongly protesting against the illegal building, by the Saigon purposet administration. against the illegal building, by the Saigon puppet administration of a military post so metres deep isto Lambodian territory in the Ong Tanaras, Svay Rieng province.

The note demanded that the post be immediately demolished.

# U Ares from

# Muong Ngan Liberated

THE Xieng Khuang (upper Laos) people and army on February 3, 1968, neatly wiped out the Commands of enemy Battalions 6 and 23 stationed at Muong Ngan villags, while their Ngan village, while their rank-and-file fled in confusion and were called on to surren-der, the Pathet Lao News Agency KPL reported. According to incomplete figures, in this attack the

Xieng Khuang people and army put out of action 104 troops of the pro-U.S. at-ministration, captured 68 fire-arms of various types including one 105mm gun, one 75mm gun, one 106.7mm mortar, 2 tons of ammunition. A.000 grenades etc...

Muong Ngan village was illegally occupied by the enemy. Its 2,500 people are now liberated.

# II S. IMPERIALISTS ARE MAKING FEVERISH WAR PREPARATIONS AGAINST

THE U.S. Imperialists and the Pak June Hi clique have unceas ingly been carrying out more and more-serious acts of war provocation against the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. They have deployed the Third Mobile Fleet off the ports of Korea, sent to South Korea The spokesman of the Commission for Unification D.R.V.N. Foreign Ministry Rehabilitation of Korea." more bomber and fighter planes and attacked many posts north of the military demarcation line. More serious still, they recently sent the intelligence ship waters of the D.P.R.K.

They have slanderously termed the South Korean people's patriotic activities Korea." They masterminded the so-called "U.N. Commission for Unification and Rehabilitation of Korea" into demanding an end to these "provocations" and ordered the Pak Jung Hi clique of quislings to send a letter calling on the 16 countries involved in the U.S. aggressive war in Korea to join in a new war against the Democratic People's Republic of

It is obvious that the U.S. imperialists and their Pak Racists' Heinous Crimes in South Rhodesia

A wave of indignation has been triggered off in Africa and throughout the world by the recent crimes of the racist authorities in South Rhodesia headed by Jan Douglas Smith, who, in defiance of protests from the people of Zimbabwe (South Rhodesia), the African people and progressive opinion in the world, executed three Zimbabwe patriots on March 6, 1968 and sentenced to death eight others on March 7. At present, there are in South Rhodesia prisons 115 patriots

under death sentence. Their lives are in great danger.

The monstrous crimes of the Smith clique bave laid bare the extremely reactionary nature of the present South Rhodesian political regime which is a more replica of South Africa's apartheid rule. After their November 11, 1965 proclamation of "independence" farce the Smith clique have resorted to brutal violence to consolidate the white colonialists' domination over the four million Africans

who make up the overwhelm-ing majority of the population in South Rhodesia. The Smith clique have promulgated many fascist laws, thrown in jail thousands of Zimbabwe patriots and savagely stamped out the national liberation movement of the Zimbabwe

Hypocritically enough, the British government pretended that it opposed the Smith clique. But this trick cannot fool the African people, since everybody knows that the Smith clique's racist regime is an offspring of British imperialism and can exist only thanks to its collusion with the British government. The "Hang Wilson!" slogan

Zambia against the Smith clique shows that the African people are aware of the perfidy of the British Labour govern ment. The Smith clique are also supported by the U.S. imperialists who are perpetrating the most odious crimes in Viet Nam and savagely suppressing Afro-Americans

Giving constant backing to the national liberation movement of the Zimbabwe people, the Vietnamese people sternly condemn the crimes of the Smith colonialist and racist regime and demand with force that the Smith clique cancel the death sentences passed on the Zimbabwe natriots and set

# THE WHOLE WORLD IS ON VIET NAM'S SIDE

leave the U.S. army. They promise them help after their desertion. The congress

When the U.S. destroy

As a result of this bold

50,000 railway workers.

The railway strikers held

AUSTRALIA

P.R. MONGOLIA

N March 9, 1968, the government of the People's Republic of Mongolia issued a statement halling the victories of the South Vict Nam armed forces South Viet Nam armed forces and people and condemning the crimes committed by the U.S. and their valets in South Victoranese towns and cities as well as the U.S. scheme for a step-up of the war against the Victnamese records.

### EDANCE

N response to the appeal of the French Women's Union the French women have held hundreds of meetings in nearly all towns and cities and countryside of France in support of the Vietnamese people's struggle against the U.S.

O Mai Van Bo, head of the D.R.V.N. Delegation General in Paris, received tion General in Paris, received representatives of the French intelligentsia: Mmes Masson, Holeno Joliot Langevin, He-lene Parmelin, Eisa Triolet and Vasarely and Messra Aragon, Michel Droit, La-cassagne, Michel Piccoli, cassagne, Michel Procus, Edouard Pignon and Vercore,

The French delegation in-The French delegation informed him that over 8,000 French intellectuals had signed a latter calling on the French intellectuals to support the Vietnances people in their struggle against U.S. aggressors, for national salvation and observe the French Intellectuals Day in Support of Viet Nam on Support of Paris. March 21 in Paris.

### WEST GERMANY

N March 7, a congress of the West German Students Union adop: ed a programme urging G.L.'s in West Germany to desert the U.S. army in protest against the Viet Nam war.

According to this program-me. West German students will canvans American bar-racks to persuade G.I.'s to

Letters to the Editor

...Your victories have been Grieved by the massacres perpetrated by the U.S. crim-"Your victories have been learer than we first thought and so details on attacks, places derivened or damaged etc... would be of interest to all supporters of the NFL. disc can you seem us any information of the U.S. bombing of civilians and their homes in Hue and Saign thouses in Hue and Saign have born a termendous simplification. inals in your country, too learn with pleasure of the successes of the N.F.L. and those of the heroic North Viet-Let your strategists go on with their work and the U.S. criminals will have sooner or later to answer for their acts whose savagery cannot be fully described by the word "genohave been a transmous inspiration to the peoples all over the world, in their fight against importalism for political, economic and cultural

Many of my compatriots and I send you our wishes for February 10, 1968

February 14, 1968 MIKE JONES 82, Circular Drive Lache Lane, Chester (England)

demonstration and parade in the streets of Tokyo.

### THE DUIL IDDINES

also passed a resolution de-manding withdrawal of Amer-ican troops from Viet Nam. THE PHILIPPINES

N the sight of March 8, about 650 Philippine at the philippine at the presence of soo grant the presence of soo grant manufactures in the U.S. war of agreement in South Vet Nam and demanded that the Philippine accommends the presence of N a demonstration held on March 2, Australians indig-nantly protested against American warmips from Viet Nam calling at Australian ports for recreation. Filipino government bring these men home.

### PAKISTAN

Hammer was sailing into Kembla, it was circled by a THE Pakistani paper Djang (Combat) wrote on March 7:" In a village near the motor boat bearing slogans condemning U.S. war in Viet Nam and demanding with-drawal of G.I.'s from South town of Sheikupura in West Pakistan, a young man named Nasrullat Khan was so moved drawal of G.I.'s from South Viet Nam. On the wharves, 500 people displayed stream-ers protesting against this war of aggression. The slogar s "U.S. go home!", "U.S. get out of Viet Nam!" were Namillat rana was so moved and indignant at the crimes perpetrated by the G.I.'s in Hue that he burat himself with kerogene in a field of the village as a protest against U.S. barbarity in Viet Nam." written in big letters along

terous opposition, the Australian reactionary authorities were compelled to cancel their planned welcome to the N a press conference in Moscow on March 4, 1968 Louis Saillant, Secretary General of the World Federa-American sailors of the tion of Trade Unions, read a declaration on the convening of an extraordingly session of the W.F.T.U. scheduled for April 8, 9 and 10, 1968 in

THE Japanese press agency
Tello reported that at
o hour on March 2, 1968,
over 340,000 railway workers
throughout Japan had stage a
4-hour strike against U.S.
aggression in Viet Nam and
against the Japanese at
thoritie's actems to dismis-The declaration pointed out that the extraordinary session is aimed solely at strengthening and widening the solidarity of the toiling peo-ple and Trade Union organi-sations in the world with the Vistnamese people and con-demning more strongly the armed aggression of U.S. imperialism. Up to midday of March 2, 400 trains stood still in many

### TRI-CONTINENTAL COMMITTEE

meetings and demonstrations in various localities and chanted the alogans "We protest against U.S. agprotest against U.S. ag-gression in Viet Nam!", "No oil shipment for U.S. troops!" and "Dismantle U.S. military bases in Japan!"... O<sup>N</sup> March 5, the Tri Con-tinental Committee in Support of Viet Nam sent to progressive scientists and intellectuals in the world a In support of the just strike letter requesting them to step up their support for Viet Nam in her strugglo against U.S. of Japanese railway workers, on the morning of March 2, about 500 students staged a The letter read in part

"At present when the fate of mankind is being decided in Viet Nam, when the future of culture and civilization of mankind is being decided on the Viet Nam battlefield and when the Vietnamese revolution is entering a declaive stage, the immediate task ahead of the world intelligentanead of the world intelligent-sis is to step up activities in support of the Vietnamese people... The Tri-Continental Committee insistently calls on the intellectuals in the world, especially in the U.S., to strongly denounce and to strongly denounce and severally condemn the barbarity of the U.S. imperfailsts, renoisably dennand that they renoisably denounce the same strong of the U.S. imperfailsts, renoisably stop one for all the bombing of the Drastdlife through from South Viet Nam and scopet the four points of the Covernment of the Covernment of the Covernment of the Covernment of the South Viet Nam. N.F.L. as the only sensible solution to the Viet Nam problem.

# I SWEDISH GOVERNMENT'S SOUND AND DIGNIFIED ATTITUDE

CCORDING to Western A new reports, the U.S. Government has recalled its ambassador to Stockholm, William Heath, Stockholm, William Heath, as a protest against the position of Sweden in the Vietnamese problem. The name reports asy that Washington disapproves of the fact that, over the last few months, Sweden has been openly critical of U.S. involvement in Viet Nam, and that at is disstrisifed and that it is dissatisfied with Sweden's granting of political asylum to many war-protesting G.I.'s. But, first and foremost, what war-protesting G.I.'s. But, first and foremost, what displeanes the White House is the welcome given last February by the Swedish government to Mr. Nguyen Tho Chan, D.R.V.N. ambassador to Moscow. Swedish Minister of Education Old-Palme articled of Schibble on the Company of t latter a meeting in Stockholm and delivered there a speech protesting against the U.S. war of aggression in Viet Nam, and calling on the

nameso people secure their right to decide themselves their own destiny.

Answering a question in an interview given to Radio Stockholm, Western sources also say, the Prime Minister of Sweden, Mr Tage Erlander, declared that Mr Olof Palme's taking part in the afore mentioned meeting was a right thing to do and that "I maintain my support to what he did." Swedish Foreign Minister Nilsson bluntly Minister Torater American ambassador before his return to Washington that "at present the view-point of the United States and that of Sweden on the Vietnames question cannot be reconciled." Not a single representative of the Swedin Foreign Ministry was present at the alreport to see Heath of from Stockholm. American ambassador before

The Swedish press resents the U.S. administration's intention to bring pressure to bear upon Stockholm for a change of position in the Victuamese issue. The liberal Dagens Ny heter wrote specingly that the number of American taking refuge in Sweeden was small in comparison with thousands of their draft-dodging compatriot who had fled to Canada compatriate



The press: All war escalations are likely to force the Johnson Administration to raise taxes.

"What else do you want? The 'Great Society' is now rising as I've promised,"

Cartoon by Luong Khoi Nhan Dan daily

Words on the duck's coat : "Great Society", and on the rope linking L.H.J. to the duch : expenditure - taxes - unemployment."

ROBERT PERRITEZ

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# P. L. A. F. Continuous Attacks

(Continued from dage 1)

took a tall of over 350 casnalties from the U.S. and puppet troops including 5 puppet platoons and & U.S. company, downed or destroyed 55 planes and choppers and memolished many logistic

March P. A.F. the to. artillery pounded many U.S. depots at Mha Trang. The Ds Nang depot built on the seashore with a pipeline was also set sfire. According to Western reports, huges columns of flames and smoke rose hundreds of metres above sea level. The

SAIGON ...

(Continued from bace a)

RECENT events in Saigon therefore come within the framework of a well-established tradition. They

stupefied only those who, blinded by their cult of brutal

able to indulge themselves, "quietly," in beinous crimes

under the protection of a million troops armed to the

What is more, they ignore

virtually all what has hap-pened in various districts. They have not witnessed the

enthusiastic welcome given the P.L.A.F. by the popu-

lation which served as their latton which served as their guides, catered to them and took great care of them. They have not men the cheerfulness which followed

the formation of self-defence units, the setting up of revolutionary committees, the operation of groups of vol-untary workers, the distribution of food supplies, the enlistment in the Liberation Army, and the emergence of "nghia binh" units composed solely of break-away puppet soldiers. They have not, first of all, read the joy and pride radiating on every face. They have seen nothing, just as they have understood nothing. They have kept from Saigon only the memories of the artificial glamories of the artificial glamories. our of the bars and buildings, fresh - looking streets, and sunny harbours. But the soul of the city is elsewhere. It glows in the eyes of its inhabitants. The eyes of Nguyen Van Troi stepping with his head high towards the execution post. The eyes of those martyrs who fall without submission. But also the eyes of the anonymous crowd in which shines the same steel glare.

thought

they were

enemy admitted the loss of many million litres of petrol. The Nha Trang depot also suffered heavy damage.

KEEPING up their offenand people of Nam Bo mounted between March 5 and 10 a series of attacks against 6 urban centres and provincial capitals in the Mekong Delta: Tra Vinh, My Tho, Vinh Long, Can Tho, Sadec and Ca Mau, destroying many puppet organs. The P.L.A.F. also shelled many airfields such as Lo Te. Tra Noc (Can The province) and My Tho, destroying or damaging many aircraft. They also intercepted many U.S. and puppet battalions on looting raids. One of the most remarkable engagements was the March 7 one, in which a battalion of Regiment 7 and another one of Regiment 8 of puppet Division 5 were wiped out about 5km from Thu Dau Mot town, north of Saigon. Meanwhile, the P. L. A. F. intercepted the U.S. and puppet battalions sent to mend Highway No 4, an important supply route link-ing Salgon to the Mekong Delta. In Ben Tre province (100 km south of Saigon), battalion 5, Regiment 10, puppet Infantry Division 7, was put out of action after suffering

310 casualties in battles tak-



### THE war in Viet Nam has come to resemble a surrealistic chess game played on a board 500 five dred miles long.

One side, the U.S., South Viet Nam and their allies. has four times as many pieces as the other and all the maones, helicopter knights, strike queens, even fleet. Its opponent, the Viet Cong and the North Vietnamhas nothing but plodding pawns.

And yet, well into the fifth week since the start of the Lunar New Year offensive. the pawns still held the initiative all over the board.

According to Allied intelligence, as many as 10,000 ene-my troops circled Saigon, concentrated to the North within ten miles of the city limits. Scores of skirmishes were taking place daily almost in the suburbs and the American command issued an alert for the long-awaited second wave of attacks this weekend.

At Khe Sanh, 20,000 North Vietnamese dug their trenches and tunnels to within 100 yards of the Marines' barbed wire and slowly increased the tempo of their hombardment from the surrounding hills. One anniversary that no one at Khe Sanh is forgetting this year is March 13. It was on that day in 1954 that the battle of Dien Bien Phu be-

Khe Sanh and Saigon were the areas of major concern to the Allies, but the situation appeared dangerous at many other points as well. In the

# A SURREALISTIC CHESS GAME

by Whalen Buckley (Reuter - March 2, 1968)

First Corps Area, a North Vietnamese division manœuvered near Quang Tri city, the capital of Viet Nam's northernmost province. Heavy fighting continued on the outskirts of Hue...

In the Second Corps Area, intelligence sources said, the North Viotnamese had strongthened their forces in the Central Highlands. Sharp fighting took place last week in the three-border region West of Dakto, five miles from Kontum and 100 miles of the south near Ban Me fourth infantry division, with one of its three brigades assigned to the First Corps Area, was hard-pressed to contain the enemy.

South of Saigon, in the Mekong River Delta, the Viet Cong kept steady pressure on Can Tho. American troops and sailors of the mobile riverine force were engaged in exhausting and costly lighting in the week.

Of greater importance in. the long run though is the fact of defending the population centers of South Viet Nam against renewed enemy attack. The Allies have virtually abandoned the coun-

As the troops, militia and revolutionary development teams have withdrawn, pacification and " search-and-destroy operations have come to a halt. One senior American staff officer said recently they have no longer had a feel for the situation in rural Viet Nam because they received little information about it.

How has it been possible for an enemy force that totaled no more than 250,000half of them lightly armed local guerrillas at the start of the offensive and which, according to Allied body counts, lost fifteen per cent of his strength in killed and captured in the past four weeks - to continue to hold the initiative against nearly 1,200,000? Perhaps the most important point is that, for all practical purposes, the enemy have the power to make themselves invisible, moving by night, adept at the arts of camouflage, hidden among the paddyfields and in the thousands of hamlets themselves, infiltrated in all likelihood into Vietnamese government intelligence services. He can mass his forces. strike against one or many weak points, avoiding the Allies' strength and then dis-

Even now, within rocket range of the capital, thousands of enemy troops are finding places to hide...



Photos : P.L.A.F. fighters (left) and G.l.'s (right)



Saigon is rightly nicknamed the Indomitable City.